

Amendments to the Specification

On page 6, please replace the paragraph starting on line 33 with the following:

Fig. 1 shows a synthetic scheme for the preparation of a lipid in accordance with the invention having a ~~carbamate~~carbamate linkage and an imidazole "Z" group;

On page 33, please replace the paragraph starting on line 30 with the following:

As illustrated in Fig. 1, ~~1,2-distearoyl-sn-glycerol~~1,2-distearoyl-sn-glycerol (500 mg, 0.8 mmol; Compound I) was dried azeotropically with benzene (3 times with rotary evaporator). *Para*-nitrophenyl chloroformate (242 mg, 1.2 mmol, 1.5eq; Compound II), 4-dimethylaminopyridine (10 mg, 0.08 mmol, 0.1 eq), and triethylamine (334 μ l, 204 mmol, 3 eq) were added to 1,2-distearoyl glycerol in CHCl_3 (5 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temp for 2h. TLC showed that the reaction was complete. The mixture was diluted with CHCl_3 (50 ml) and extracted with 10% citric acid (3 X 15 mL). The organic layer was dried (MgSO_4) and evaporated to give a solid. The solid (light orange) was washed with acetonitrile (4 X 3 mL) to remove excess of *p*-nitrophenyl chloroformate. The product, *para*-nitrophenyl carbonate of distearoyl glycerol (Compound III), was dried under vacuum over P_2O_5 . Yield: 557 mg (88%). ^1H NMR (360 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 0.88 (t, CH_3 , 6H); 1.26 (s, CH_2 , 58H); 1.62 (m, $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CO}$, 4H); 2.4 (2xt, CH_2CO , 4H); 4.2 (dd, trans CH_2OCO , 1H); 4.35 (m, CH_2OCOO , 2H); 4.5 (dd, cis CH_2OCO , 1H); 5.38 (m, CH_2CHCH_2 , 1H); 7.4 (d, C_6H_5 , 2H); 8.3 (d, C_6H_5 , 2H).